

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, with the following replacement paragraph:

Related Applications

This application is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/603,124, filed on June 23, 2000, and ~~This application~~ claims priority to prior filed U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/141031, filed June 25, 1999, U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/143694, filed July 14, [[2000]] 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/151778, filed August 31, 1999. This application also claims priority to German Application No. 19931418.7, filed July 8, 1999, German Application No. 19932124.8, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932126.4, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932127.2, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932133.7, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932207.4, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932208.2, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932225.2, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932229.5, filed July 9, 1999, German Application No. 19932914.1, filed July [[9]] 14, 1999, German Application No. 19933006.9, filed July [[9]] 14, 1999, German Application No. 19940765.7, filed August 27, 1999, German Application No. 19940768.1, filed August 27, 1999, German Application No. 19940831.9, filed August 27, 1999, German Application No. 19940832.7, filed August 27, 1999, German Application No. 19941385.1, filed August 31, 1999, German Application No. 19941396.7, filed August 31, 1999, and German Application No. 19942087.4, filed September 3, 1999. The entire contents of all of the aforementioned applications are hereby expressly incorporated herein by this reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 57, line 17, with the following replacement paragraph:

Genomic libraries as described in Example 2 were used for DNA sequencing according to standard methods, in particular by the chain termination method using ABI377 sequencing machines (see *e.g.*, Fleischman, R.D. *et al.* (1995) "Whole-genome Random Sequencing and Assembly of Haemophilus Influenzae Rd., Science, 269:496-512). Sequencing primers with the following nucleotide sequences were used: 5'-GGAAACAGTATGACCATG-3' (SEQ ID NO:479) or 5'-GTAAAACGACGGCCAGT-3' (SEQ ID NO:480).